THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Yes, Sir. Number of villages involved was, however, 33 only.

(b) Compensation as provided under the Land Acquisition Act was paid for the lands acquired.

(c) and (d). 4000 Land Reference cases were filed by the land owners. Out of these, 1128 have been dismissed.

(e) An amount of Rs. 89,54,000/- for rehabilitation was sanctioned and make available to the District Collector, Bikaner for disbursement to the displaced families.

[English]

Fake Medicine manufacturing Units

3415. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of fake medicine manufacturing units unearthed in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against the persons found responsible therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

India's Membership in UN Security Council

3416. SHRI C. NARASIMHAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of countries in favour of India's Permanent membership in the UN Security Council; and

(b) whether the U.S. and China are also supporting the case of our inclusion in the Security Council?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b). Five countries have specifically supported India's candidature for permanent membership of the UN Security Council (Bhutan, Mauritius, Cuba, Dominican Republic and LAO PDR). The US and China have not taken any position on India's candidature for permanent membership.

[Translation]

Vacancies in BHU

3417. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of posts of lecturers are lying vacant in Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of reserved/unreserved posts out of them;

(d) the time since when these posts have been lying vacant; and

(e) the time by which these posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (e). The information is being collected from the Banaras Hindu University and shall be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Multinational Company

3418. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that a top Multinational Company will set up a Chain of Commercial Genetic testing and counselling clinics in India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). A Proposal of M/s. Progene Inc., USA for setting up of Progene India Humar Genetic Centre in New Delhi has recently been cleared by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board subject to certain stipulations including that they would have to seek the necessary approvals under the existing local laws, regulations and guidelines.

Krishna River Water Dispute

3419. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state the details of action taken by the Union Government to solve Krishna River Water Dispute among the concerned States?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Krishna Water Disputes, Tribunal (KWDT) has given Final Order in 1976 sharing of Krishna waters among the States of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. As such there is no water dispute among Krishna Basin States. There is a controversy between the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka about Full Reservoir Level of Almatti Dam. A meeting of the Chief Ministers of Manarashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh was convened by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 10-08-96 in an effort to arrive at an amicable settlement. But no consensus could be reached. However, the Chief Minister of Karnataka State assured that the Karnataka Government does not intend to utilise more water than its allocated share.